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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/086,818	02/28/2002	Bob Janssen	DVME-1019US	1572

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EXAMINER

BULLOCK JR, LEWIS ALEXANDER

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2195

DATE MAILED: 04/17/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/086,818

Applicant(s)

JANSSEN, BOB

Examiner

Lewis A. Bullock, Jr.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 January 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 28 February 2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over REGNIER (U.S. Patent 5,689,708) in view of KLIMCZAK (U.S. Patent 6,513,111).

As to claim 1, REGNIER teaches the administering user access to application programs (applications) by detecting a command to execute a task (user selection of an application) (col. 6, lines 49-67; col. 7, lines 1-16), and preventing execution of tasks that are not on the list of allowed tasks (col. 7, lines 1-15) wherein the user-specific list of allowed tasks is configured based on the information in the database comprising a user profile for each user (col. 3, lines 22-36; col. 4, lines 65-67; col. 5, lines 2-6; col. 5, lines 44-60; col. 5, lines 35-48). However, REGNIER does not teach the use of various databases to customize the user access.

KLIMCZAK teaches a method of administering user access to application programs (computer software application) on a computer system (computer system), comprising providing a user database (main profile table), a database of tasks (object actions table / actions value type table / actions type table) (col. 7, line 43 – col. 8, line 62) and a user-specific list of allowed tasks (content of pull-down menus) (col. 12, lines 26-29; col. 13, lines 22-27), comprising allowed application programs, running a system

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administration program (profile editor / configuration code / small application / entitlement agent) (col. 6, lines 25-32; col. 2, lines 6-18; col. 10, lines 35-54; col. 9, lines 16-30; col. 11, lines 1-52) to configure the list of allowed tasks (content of pull-down menus) on the basis of the user database (main profile table) and the database of tasks (object actions table / actions value type table / actions type table) (col. 7, line 43 – col. 8, line 62; col. 12, lines 26-29; col. 13, lines 22-27). KLIMCZAK also teaches the invention customizes the user interface / actions of an application to various users (col. 1, lines 40-50). Therefore it would be obvious to one skilled in the art to combine the teachings of REGNIER with the teachings of KLIMCZAK in order to facilitate allowance of user access to aspects of the user interface on an individualized basis according to subscriber configuration decisions (col. 1, lines 46-50).

As to claim 12, REGNIER teaches a system for administering user access to application programs (applications) through a means for detecting a command to execute a task (user selection of an application) (col. 6, lines 49-67; col. 7, lines 1-16), and a means for preventing execution of tasks referred to by the command that are not on the list of allowed tasks (col. 7, lines 1-15) wherein the user-specific list of allowed tasks is configured based on the information in the database, i.e. user profile (col. 3, lines 22-36; col. 4, lines 65-67; col. 5, lines 2-6; col. 5, lines 44-60; col. 5, lines 35-48). However, REGNIER does not teach the use of various databases to customize the user access.

KLIMCZAK teaches a computer system (computer system0 comprising means for generating a user-specific list of allowed tasks (content of pull-down menus) (col. 12, lines 26-29; col. 13, lines 22-27), comprising allowed application programs (application programs), a user database (main profile table) and a database of tasks (object actions table / actions value type table / actions type table) (col. 7, line 43 – col. 8, line 62), and means for configuring the list of allowed tasks on the basis of the user database and the database of tasks (col. 7, line 43 – col. 8, line 62; col. 12, lines 26-29; col. 13, lines 22-27) (via a profile editor / configuration code / small application / entitlement agent) (col. 6, lines 25-32; col. 2, lines 6-18; col. 10, lines 35-54; col. 9, lines 16-30; col. 11, lines 1-52). KLIMCZAK also teaches the invention customizes the user interface / actions of an application to various users (col. 1, lines 40-50). Therefore it would be obvious to one skilled in the art to combine the teachings of REGNIER with the teachings of KLIMCZAK in order to facilitate allowance of user access to aspects of the user interface on an individualized basis according to subscriber configuration decisions (col. 1, lines 46-50).

As to claim 17, REGNIER teaches a method for administering user access to application programs (applications) by detecting a command to execute a task (user selection of an application) (col. 6, lines 49-67; col. 7, lines 1-16), and preventing execution of tasks referred to by the command that are not on the list of allowed tasks (col. 7, lines 1-15) wherein the user-specific list of allowed tasks is configured based on the information in the database, i.e. the user's profile (col. 3, lines 22-36; col. 4, lines 65-

67; col. 5, lines 2-6; col. 5, lines 44-60; col. 5, lines 35-48). However, REGNIER does not teach the use of various databases to customize the user access.

KLIMCZAK teaches a computer program comprising computer-readable instructions, which, when executed, perform the tasks of: generating a user-specific list of allowed tasks (content of pull-down menus) (col. 12, lines 26-29; col. 13, lines 22-27), comprising allowed application programs (computer software applications), reading a user database (main profile table) and a database of tasks (object actions table / actions value type table / actions type table) (col. 7, line 43 – col. 8, line 62), and configuring the list of allowed tasks on the basis of the user database and the database of tasks (col. 7, line 43 – col. 8, line 62; col. 12, lines 26-29; col. 13, lines 22-27) (via a profile editor / configuration code / small application / entitlement agent) (col. 6, lines 25-32; col. 2, lines 6-18; col. 10, lines 35-54; col. 9, lines 16-30; col. 11, lines 1-52). Therefore it would be obvious to one skilled in the art to combine the teachings of REGNIER with the teachings of KLIMCZAK in order to facilitate allowance of user access to aspects of the user interface on an individualized basis according to subscriber configuration decisions (col. 1, lines 46-50).

As to claims 2, 13 and 18, REGNIER teaches the list of allowed tasks (menu items) is configured at least once every time a user has entered a request to log on to the computer system (col. 10, lines 25-40). KLIMCZAK also teaches configuring the user interface during logon (run time stage) (col. 6, lines 53 – 67).

As to claim 3, REGNIER teaches the tasks comprises time interval information specifying time intervals (off-peak hours / other conditions) in which a task may be executed and configuring the list of allowed tasks on the basis of this information (col. 8, lines 42-61; col. 8, line 65 – col. 9, line 13). However, neither REGNIER nor KLIMCZAK teach that the use of a system clock which indicates the time for accessing the applications. Official Notice is taken in that it is well known in the art that in order to determine if off-peak hours have been reached the current time would have to be known. Therefore, it would be obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to have and use a system clock in order to know if the application can be accessed because it is off-peak hours. U.S. Patent 6,401,238 would be an example of this well known functionality.

As to claims 4 and 14, REGNIER teaches information for linking tasks (applications) to other tasks (other functions, i.e. printing functions, interactive mode functions, applications, etc) that can invoke the tasks during execution of an application program (via selection of a menu item from the database of tasks and requires another selection of task mode) (col. 8, lines 32-51; col. 9, lines 45-62). KLIMCZAK also teaches the tables store information that relates various functions with one another (via the setting of various values in the object actions table / actions value type table / actions type table) (col. 7, line 43 – col. 8, line 62).

As to claims 5, 10, 11, 15 and 19, REGNIER teaches preventing tasks from executing (via graying / diming / removing out the task from the menu list) during certain time periods (col. 7, lines 5-15; col. 9, lines 7-20). REGNIER also teaches that it is possible to run routine 600, which enables for the dynamic updating of menu choices, during execution of the application program, so that menu choices could vary even during a single execution of an application (col. 10, lines 25-40; col. 9, line 63 – col. 10, line 25). Therefore, it would be obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention that a user calls applications that are not on the list such that they are allowed to execute and are subsequently placed on the list dynamically as defined in REGNIER in combination with KLIMCZAK.

As to claim 6, REGNIER teaches the computer system is a distributed computer system (client / server network) comprising a plurality of computer terminals (clients and servers) connected to a network (col. 4, lines 3-52) wherein the client systems are any type of computing device registered with another device and capable of displaying a list of allowed tasks. However, REGNIER does not teach that the applications comprise location-dependent information such that the user is configured with a list of allowed tasks on the basis of the location-dependent information and the registered terminal.

KLIMCZAK teaches that the user invoking the application is identified based on a dedicated workstation so that the workstation will have only user profile information for some predetermined user based on other alternative identification mechanisms, i.e. conventional electronic fingerprinting, photographing, voice recognition, or the like (col.

6, line 60 – col. 7, line 3). Official Notice is taken in that location-dependent information is well known in the art to identifying a dedicated user and therefore would be obvious to the teachings of REGNIER in combination with KLIMCZAK in order to identify the actions associated with a user that is dedicated to a workstation and customize its workstations.

As to claims 7, 16 and 20, REGNIER teaches a plurality of user groups are defined (group of users), a group membership list is provided with the user database for each user (set of profiles may constitute an ordinary table in this database and lists a user or predefined group of users) (col. 8, lines 8-20), links are provided between the tasks in the database of tasks and the groups, and the links and the group membership lists are used to configure the list of allowed tasks (menu list) (col. 8, lines 8-41; col. 6, line 49 – col. 7, line 15). KLIMCZAK also teaches the use of user groups (security levels) in establishing a profile that relates to a configured list of allowed tasks (actions / user interface actions / menu items) (col. 4, lines 25-40).

As to claim 8, REGNIER teaches a plurality of user functions (applications) are defined, a user function list is provided with the user database for each user (list of functions allowed or not allowed), links are provided between the tasks in the database of tasks and the user functions (via the set of profiles consulting the processing of the application to determine if it can function) (col. 8, lines 8-20; col. 7, lines 16-41; col. 3, lines 26-32), and the links and the user function list are used to configure the list of

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allowed tasks (menu list) (col. 8, lines 8-41; col. 6, line 49 – col. 7, line 15; col. 3, lines 32-36). KLIMCZAK also teaches the use of user groups (security levels) in establishing a profile that relates to a configured list of allowed tasks (actions / user interface actions / menu items) (col. 4, lines 25-40).

As to claim 9, REGNIER teaches prevention of the execution of the application program or task is registered (col. 3, lines 25-32). However, neither REGNIER nor KLIMCZAK teach that a notification is sent to a system administrator. Official Notice is taken in that it is well known in the art at the time of the invention in a monitored or controlled system, inadvertent accesses or errors are typically sent to a system administrator. Therefore, it would be obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to combine well known sending of notifications to an administrator to the teachings of REGNIER and KLIMCZAK in order to actively monitor a computer system.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments filed January 30, 2006 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicant has provided substantial arguments regarding a user-specific list of tasks, comprising allowed application programs, as not being taught by the combination of Regnier in view of Klimczak. The examiner disagree. First, the examiner refers to Applicants specification for the definition of application and task. On page 4, lines 27-34, Applicant defines what an application is. An application in this context is a program designed to perform a specific function directly for the user or, in

some cases, for another application program, i.e. word processing programs, programs for computer aided design programs, programs to operate a scanner, and programs to access files stored on a disk. Application programs use the services of the computer operating system and other supporting application programs, amongst others to access resources, such as external and internal devices. On page 4, line 35 – page 5, line 7, Applicant defines a task. A task is a basic unit of programming than an operating system controls. It can be the entire application program or a utility program invoked by another program. From this definition it can be conceived that a task and an application are the same thing, e.g. both a task and an application are programs that perform a specific function for another application program. Therefore, instances of referring to a task or application are interchangeable when interpreting the claims. Hence, when one states a database of tasks, this can also be a database of applications or when one states that a user-specific list of allowed task comprising application programs, the application programs are tasks.

On page 7 of the response, Applicant provides an argument that the claims recited tasks and application programs such that both are required in the current invention. Based on the rational provided above, this is false. Task and applications are the same thing as outlined above. Therefore, indications of one alludes to the other. The argument makes the assumption that they are different entities performing different functions. As outlined in the specification each performs the same functionality and therefore are the same entity. Hence all usage of task are applications or vice versa.

Regnier teaches a concept wherein a user through a client computer selects an initial application from a plurality of applications for executing and based on the user profile establishes or modifies a list of commands to various programs for execution by the initial application. Regnier teaches that the initial application is a distributed application program wherein a portion of the program, i.e. the initial part has its user interface of commands modified based on the profile to allow or disallow the invocation of certain commands to the remaining program portions of the application program (col. 7, lines 22-42; col. 7, line 54 – col. 8, line 7) one of which is a database server module which allows one to access a database (col. 9, lines 27-62). Referring back to the definition of an application / task above, both are used/designed to perform a specific function directly for the user or, in some cases, **for another program**. The definition of an application goes on to state that it can be a program to access files stored on a disk or access an external resource. The database server module would therefore qualify as an application/task and thus allow/disallow of the menu choice in the initial application, i.e. client module, of invoking the server module based on the profile to the initial application. The combination with Klimczak which details the updating/configuring of menu choices/list in an application based on a profile and a database of tasks (actions) wherein based on Regnier actions refer to invocations of application programs (database server module) would meet all of the limitations of the claims, e.g. accessing a user database of profiles, a task database of tasks, and a user-specific list of allowed tasks programs; configuring the user list of tasks (menu) based on the user profile and the tasks; detecting a command to execute a task; and preventing the execution of the

tasks that are not on the list of allowed task, i.e. those task that are dimmed out are prevented or disallowed. Therefore, Applicant's arguments regarding "a user-specific list of tasks, comprising allowed application programs wherein execution of tasks referred to by a detected command is prevented if the tasks are not on the list of allowed tasks" are unpersuasive based on the rational provided herein. Additionally both references would not teach away from one another based on the rational provided herein, because both references configure a list of allowed tasks/actions based on the profile and a database of tasks/actions.

Applicant provides another argument that an administrator must configure the user profile for each user on an individual basis by manually configuring the access. The examiner does not understand how this argument relates the claims as presented. There is no requirement that the profile is not configured by an administrator. In fact, only the list is configured and thus as shown above, is met by the teachings of Regnier and Klimczak.

In addition, the Examiner would like to make Applicant aware of previously cited U.S. Patents 6,401,238; 6,546,002 and 6,339,826 all of which explicitly details of inventions of creating a list of allowed applications based on a user profile and the applications themselves. These references were cited, but not relied upon in the previous action and are capable of being used in case there is any new or previously submitted limitation or argument that the examiner missed or erred in interpreting. The examiner would like to make Applicant aware of such prior art in order to condense the level of prosecution in the application.

Conclusion

4. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

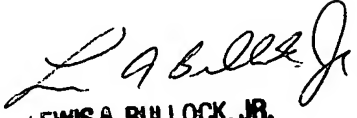
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lewis A. Bullock, Jr. whose telephone number is (571) 272-3759. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Meng An can be reached on (571) 272-3756. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

April 13, 2006


LEWIS A. BULLOCK, JR.
PRIMARY EXAMINER